

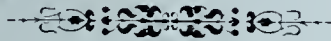
CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE

—IN THE—

EMPIRE OF JAPAN.

Published by

The Bureau of Commerce and Industry,
Department of Agriculture and
Commerce, Japan.



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CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE IN THE EMPIRE OF JAPAN.

Chambers of Commerce, which were first established in the Empire in 1878, were existing in 1890 at no less than fifty places. In the latter year, the Government promulgated the "Law relating to Chambers of Commerce" and the Department of Agriculture and Commerce issued the "Regulations for the Execution of the Law relating to Chambers of Commerce." The Chambers of Commerce authorized under this Law to be established are eighteen as shown in the following statement:—

NAME.	LOCATION.	NUMBER OF MEMBERS.	NUMBER OF SPECIAL MEMBERS.
Akamagaseki Chamber of Commerce..	City of Akamagaseki..	30	—
Gifu	Gifu	30	3
Hiroshima	Hiroshima	30	6
Hakata	Hakata	30	5
Kioto	Kioto	40	3
Kobe	Kobe	40	7
Kanazawa	Kanazawa	30	3
Kochi	Kochi	30	2
Kumamoto	Kumamoto	40	—
Nagoya	Nagoya	35	—
Okazaki	Okazaki	25	—
Onomichi	Onomichi	20	—
Osaka	Osaka	50	5
Otsu	Otsu	25	—
Sakai	Sakai	30	—
Sendai	Sendai	30	—
Shidzuoka	Shidzuoka	30	—
Tokio	Tokio	50	5

All the Chambers of Commerce mentioned in the above statement having adopted regulations, which are nearly identical, those of the Tokio Chamber of Commerce are alone inserted here together with the text of the “ Law relating to Chambers of Commerce ” and the “ Regulations for the Execution of the Law relating to Chambers of Commerce.”

Regulations of the Tokio Chamber of Commerce.

NAME AND LOCATION.

Art. 1.—This Chamber is named the “Tokio Chamber of Commerce.”

Art. 2.—This Chamber is located at No. 2, Kabutocho, Nihonbashiku, City of Tokio.

EXTENT OF THE DISTRICT.

Art. 3.—The limits of the district in which this Chamber is established shall correspond to those of the City of Tokio.

NUMBER OF MEMBERS.

Art. 4.—This Chamber consists of fifty Members.

SPECIAL MEMBERS.

Art. 5.—This Chamber shall nominate Special Members not exceeding one-fifth of the fixed number of its Members.

ELECTION OF MEMBERS.

Art. 6.—One half of the Members shall retire in every second year.

Retiring Members are eligible for re-election.

Art. 7.—When a vacancy occurs among the members, a substitutional member shall be elected at the ordinary biennial election. If, however, vacancies are more than one-fifth of the fixed number of the Members or in the event this Chamber should deem it necessary, an extraordinary election shall be held even prior to the date of the ordinary biennial election.

The term of a substitutional Member shall correspond to that of his predecessor.

Art. 8.—This Chamber shall, at least one month previous to the month in which an election is to take place, request the Governor of Tokio to hold the election, transmitting therewith a list of electors and eligible persons together with the necessary documents and appliances.

Art. 9.—An ordinary election shall be held in the month of February of the year in which a biennial election is to take place and an extraordinary election shall be held in the month to be fixed by a vote of this Chamber.

Art. 10.—The list of electors and eligible persons shall be revised once a year according to the qualifications actually possessed on the 1st of September and ascertained by examining the registers relating to residence, trade and income-tax, and other documents provided in the Local Government Office and Urban District Offices of Tokio.

Art. 11.—In the list of electors and eligible persons, the name, trade, place of business, residence, and date of birth of each person possessing the qualification, and the name, location, and trade of each commercial company shall be entered.

Art. 12.—When the list of electors and eligible persons is revised, the fact shall be notified to the traders of the City of Tokio, and the list shall be open to public inspection in this Chamber for a period of seven days.

If any objection is made within the said period in regard to the entries in the list, this Chamber shall examine the ground of the objection and give its decision.

Art. 13.—The list of electors and eligible persons is finally settled on the expiration of the period for public inspection mentioned in the preceding Article.

Should any elector or eligible person registered in the list lose his qualification after the expiration of the aforesaid period, the right to elect or to be elected shall cease to exist.

Art. 14.—When the date of election is fixed, this Chamber shall provide each elector with a voting paper and a list of the eligible persons.

Art. 15.—On the day of election, electors shall vote at the voting place for the fixed number of Members.

If there are eligible persons or companies of the same name, the person or company voted for shall be distinguished by stating the trade or place of business of such person or company.

Each voter shall use the voting paper provided by this Chamber.

Each voter shall state in the voting paper the names of the persons he votes for and then shall write his own name and stamp his seal.

Votes shall be put into the ballot-box provided at the voting place.

Votes may be put into the ballot-box by authorized substitutes.

Art. 16.—The persons who have obtained the largest number of votes shall be declared elected.

When the number of votes is equal, the election shall be determined by lot.

The Election Committee shall, after the voting is closed, count the votes at the voting place.

Electors may be present, with the consent of the Election Committee, at the counting of votes.

Art. 17.—The following ballots shall be absolutely void :

1. Ballots for which voting papers provided by this Chamber have not been used.

2. Ballots which do not contain the voter's name and seal.

The following ballots shall be partially void :

1. Ballots which contain the name of a person or company not entered in the list of eligible persons.

2. Ballots in which any of the persons voted for can not be identified.

3. Ballots in which a correction is made without stamping the seal of the voter.

4. Ballots in which the trade or place of business of the person or company voted for not being stated, such person

or company can not be distinguished from another person or company of the same name.

Art. 18.—When the names of persons stated in a ballot are less than the fixed number, those actually stated shall not be declared void, and if they are more than the fixed number, those in excess shall be struck off commencing with the name last stated.

In case the name of the same person or company is written twice, it shall be counted as one vote.

Art. 19.—When any doubt arises as to the validity of a ballot, the Election Committee shall give its decision. No objection can be raised against this decision.

Art. 20.—The following particulars shall be entered in the minutes of election under the signatures and seals of the Election Committee :

1. The date and hour of election.
2. The date and hour of the counting of votes.
3. The total number of votes.
4. The names of the persons voted for and the number of the votes received by each.
5. The names of the elected persons.
6. Other statements which the Election Committee may deem necessary.

Art. 21.—Special Members shall be elected by the Members of this Chamber.

In the election of Special Members, votes for each Member shall be taken separately, and the person who has obtained a majority of the votes shall be declared elected. If none has such majority, the votes taken again in respect to the two persons who have obtained the largest number of votes shall be decisive.

When the number of votes is equal, the election shall be determined by lot.

When the elected persons are settled, the President of the Chamber shall notify the fact to the elected persons and report to the Chamber their refusal or acceptance.

Special Members shall be subject to the provisions of Art. 10 of the Law relating to Chambers of Commerce.

Art. 22.—This Chamber shall, whenever the election of Members takes place, report to the Minister of Agriculture and Commerce the names of the elected persons and shall also give a public notice of the same.

PROCEEDINGS.

Art. 23.—This Chamber holds ordinary and extraordinary meetings.

Art. 24.—In an ordinary meeting, the following matters shall be transacted :

1. Report on ordinary business.
2. final account of the expenses.
3. Estimate of the expenses and the mode of their collection.
4. Ordinary election of the Officers.

Art. 25.—In an extraordinary election, the following matters shall be submitted :

1. Matters mentioned in Art. 4 of the Law relating to Chambers of Commerce.
2. Measures for the disposal of property
3. Measures for dealing with persons resigning membership or neglecting to pay the expenses.
4. Extraordinary election of Officers.
5. Other matters not to be submitted in an ordinary meeting.

Matters mentioned in the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th clauses of this Article may also be submitted in an ordinary meeting.

Art. 26.—An ordinary meeting shall be held in March of each year and an extraordinary meeting shall be held at any time in accordance with a decision of the Council of Officers or on the demand of not less than two-tenths of the Members.

Art. 27.—The President of the Chamber shall act as Chairman.

Art. 28.—Whenever a meeting is to be held, a notice of the meeting shall be given five days previously except in the cases of urgency.

Art. 29.—No meeting shall be opened unless a majority of the members is present.

Art. 30.—Votes shall be taken by an absolute majority. In the case of a tie vote, the Chairman shall have the casting vote.

Art. 31.—The debate in a meetings shall be confined to the subjects previously notified by the President of the Chamber. This rule, however, does not apply when any urgent question is made the subject of debate with the support of at least ten Members.

Art. 32.—When any project is required to be examined or amended, it may be submitted to a Committee appointed on the recommendation of the Chairman or at the request of at least two Members.

Art. 33.—In the event any Member should, during a meeting, infringe the rules of debate or disturb the order of the meeting, the Chairman shall warn him, stop him, or order him to withdraw his remarks. If he fails to obey the order of the Chairman, the latter may either prohibit him from speaking until the meeting is closed or order him to leave the meeting.

Art. 34.—When it is found difficult to maintain order in a meeting, owing to its excitement, the Chairman may suspend the meeting or close it for the day.

Art. 35.—Detailed rules of debate shall be determined by a vote of this Chamber.

Duties and Powers of Officers and the Transaction of Business.

Art. 36.—The Officers of this Chamber shall be elected from among the Members. Those who have obtained the largest number of votes shall be declared elected, and if the number of votes is equal, the election shall be determined by lot. The Officers are as follows :

President, 1.

Vice-Presidents, 2.

Standing Committee, 7 Members.

Art. 37.—Officers shall be elected every second year in the ordinary meeting which is held in March. Officers are eligible for re-election.

Art. 38.—When a vacancy occurs among the Officers, an extraordinary meeting shall be held to elect a substitute.

The term of a substitute shall correspond to that of his predecessor.

Art. 39.—The President, Vice-Presidents, and Members of the Standing Committee shall constitute the Council of Officers.

Art. 40.—The President shall be Chairman of the Council of Officers.

The Council of Officers shall hold no meeting unless a majority of the Officers is present.

Votes shall be taken by an absolute majority of those present. In the case of a tie vote, the Chairman shall have the casting vote.

Art. 41.—The Council of Officers shall discuss matters belonging to the ordinary business of the Chamber and determine detailed rules relating to the transaction of general business and account.

Art. 42.—The President shall represent the Chamber in its external affairs and assume the direction of all its business.

Art. 43.—The Vice-Presidents shall assist the President in the discharge of his duties and shall act for him in the case of his disability.

Art. 44.—This Chamber shall divide the Members into the following Sections in order to conduct investigations as to the condition of trade :

1. Section of Trade.
2. „ „ Industry.
3. „ „ Finance.
4. „ „ Transport.

Art. 45.—In each Section, a Chief shall be elected by and from among the Member belonging thereto.

Art. 46.—Each Section may adopt such rules of procedure as it may deem fit, subject to the approval of the Council of Officers.

Art. 47.—The following Clerks shall be appointed to transact the ordinary business of this Chamber :

Chief Clerk.

Clerks.

Assistant Clerks.

Art. 48.—The President shall appoint or dismiss Clerks with the approval of the Council of Officers.

Art. 49.—The Council of Officers shall appoint two members of the Standing Committee as Controllers, who shall be charged with the supervision of the business relating to account.

Art. 50.—This Chamber is provided with two seals of the following forms : (Forms omitted).

RULES RELATING TO ARBITRATION.

Art. 51.—When an application is made to this Chamber for arbitration in a dispute concerning trade in the City of Tokio, the Council of Officers shall determine the mode of procedure.

The parties concerned shall sign their names and affix their seals to the application which shall contain their declaration to observe these Rules of Arbitration.

Art. 52.—In entertaining an application for arbitration, this Chamber shall require the applicants to produce an agreement in writing, which shall contain their declaration to raise no objection whatever against the award of this Chamber in the matter in dispute.

Art. 53.—This Chamber shall undertake arbitration only when the matter in dispute is of such a nature as the parties concerned have the right to settle it amicably.

Art. 54.—This Chamber shall require the parties applying for arbitration to pay in advance a reasonable fee.

The amount of the fee, which is to be less than five yen nor more than fifty yen, shall be determined by the Council of Officers according to the gravity or complication of the matter in dispute.

The fee paid shall not be returned even in the case of the withdrawal of the application or its dismissal.

Art. 55.—No judicial proceedings shall be instituted against the award of this Chamber.

Art. 56.—In the following cases, a new hearing shall be granted, free of any charge, at the request of the parties if it is made within two weeks from the date of the award :

1. When the award is found to contain any matter incompatible with the laws.

2. When the hearing has been conducted without observing these Rules or the award does not contain the requisites set forth in these Rules.

Art. 57.—The Council of Officers shall appoint nine members, from among the ordinary and special members of this Chamber, to act as a Committee of Arbitration.

Art. 58.—In the case of a second hearing, all the members of the Committee of Arbitration shall be newly appointed.

Art. 59.—The Committee of Arbitration shall have a Chairman elected from among its members. The award of the Committee shall be voted by a majority of its members. In the case of a tie vote, the Chairman is entitled to the casting vote.

Art. 60.—When any member of the Committee of Arbitration is personally interested in the result of arbitration or related to either of the parties concerned, he shall decline his service in the Committee. This rule also applies even when relationship has ceased to exist.

The parties concerned may also make objections in such cases as mentioned in the preceding clause.

Art. 61.—In the cases provided in the preceding Article, the Council of Officers shall appoint a substitute.

Art. 62.—The award of arbitration shall be formally pronounced.

The reasons of the decision shall be set forth in the award, which is to be under the seal of this Chamber and the signatures of the members of the Committee.

Art. 63.—The proportion in which the amount paid as the fee is to be borne shall be declared simultaneously with the delivery of the award.

Art. 64.—Certified copies of the award shall be given to the parties concerned and its original shall be deposited in the competent Court.

Art. 65.—The parties concerned shall act in obedience to the direction of the Committee of Arbitration and submit all the necessary documents.

Either of the parties concerned may, with permission of the Committee, appoint a substitute to appear at its proceedings. Such substitute shall be, however, a trade procurator of the party concerned or a member of his family.

Art. 66.—Neither of the parties concerned as allowed to produce an attorney-at-law as his substitute.

Art. 67.—When witnesses are required in arbitration, the parties concerned shall procure the attendance of those witnesses either with permission of the Committee or on its own nomination.

Art. 68.—The Committee of Arbitration may, if necessary, submit the subject-matter in dispute to the examination of experts.

Art. 69.—The Committee of Arbitration shall complete the proceedings in each case within two weeks from the date of its reception. This period may, however, be extended with the approval of the Council of Officers, if the case requires a special investigation.

Art. 70.—If the parties concerned fail to observe these Rules, the Committee of Arbitration may dismiss the case.

RULES RELATING TO ACCOUNT.

Art. 71.—An estimate of the expenses of the Chamber and the mode of their collection, in which the following items are to be set forth, shall be submitted, after having been voted by the Council of Officers, to the ordinary meeting in March of each year :

Receipts.

1. Proceeds obtained by collection.
2. Fees.
3. Voluntary contributions.

4. Sundry receipts.

5. Amount brought over from the preceding account.

Expenditure.

1. Payment of the “organization expenses” of the Chamber.

2. Expenses of election.

3. Expenses of investigation.

4. Expenses of collection.

5. Salaries and travelling expenses.

6. Advertisement charges.

7. Reward for meritorious services.

8. Compensation for services.

9. Printing expenses.

10. Expenses for furniture.

11. Expenses for articles of consumption.

12. Expenses of correspondence.

13. Contribution to the fund for the erection of the Hall.

14. Taxes and rent for the building.

15. Expenses for repairs.

16. Expenses for the reception of guests.

17. Miscellaneous expenses.

18. Reserve fund.

Art. 72.—The expenses of this Chamber shall be levied on the persons having the right of election in a certain proportion to the amount of the income-tax payable by each.

Art. 73.—A definite sum of money not exceeding one-fifth of the total amount of expenditure shall be set apart as a reserve fund, which is to be used in the cases of necessity with the assent of this Chamber.

Art. 74.—The amount of each item in the estimate shall not be used to pay the expenses of any other item, unless authorized by a vote of this Chamber.

Art. 75.—The amount due for one year shall be collected, from the persons bound to pay, in November of each year.

Art. 76.—The amount to be paid shall be forwarded to this Chamber on the date specified in a notice to be issued in the name of the President.

Art. 77.—In case of the failure of any person to make payment on the date specified in the notice, the measures shall be taken, with the assent of the Council of Officers, as provided in the 2nd clause of Art. 19 of the Law relating to Chambers of Commerce.

Art. 78.—In March of each year, a final account of the preceding year shall be laid before the ordinary meeting, and it shall, when approved, be reported to the Minister of Agriculture and Commerce.

Art. 79.—The estimate of expenses and final account shall be reported to the persons having the right of election, simultaneously with the receipt of the approval of the Minister of Agriculture and Commerce in the one case and the forwarding of the report to the said Minister in the other.

Art. 80.—The fiscal year of this Chamber begins in September of each year and ends in August of the succeeding year.

Art. 81.—The President shall be responsible for the custody of all the property and of the keys of the safe provided in this Chamber.

Art. 82.—The inventory of property, prepared in January of each year, shall be laid before the ordinary meeting and reported to the persons having the right of election.

Art. 83.—In preparing the inventory, the property shall be estimated at the market values ruling in the preceding month. If the value of any article is doubtful, it shall be determined by taking the average of the values assessed by three or more experts.

Art. 84.—When any property is to be bought or sold, the decision of the Council of Officers shall be obtained.

If the value of such property exceeds 300 *yen*, the assent of this Chamber is required.

Art. 85.—If any person sends to this Chamber a contribution in money or articles, the Council of Officers shall issue a receipt to the donor and give a public notice of the fact.

If the donor has specified the object for which the money or articles contributed are to be used, his directions shall be followed.

Art. 86.—All the money received by this Chamber shall be deposited in a bank to be designated by the Council of Officers.

Art. 87.—The clerks or other persons charged with the receipt and disbursement of cash shall deposit in this Chamber such security as the Council of Officers may determine.

Art. 88.—The money deposited as security shall be used to make good any loss occasioned by negligence of the depositor.

Art. 89.—The business relating to receipts and expenditure shall be transacted according to the rules to be specially provided for.

RULES RELATING TO THE CONTROL OF PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS
AND THEIR BUSINESS PLACES.

Art. 90.—When this Chamber is to assume, under the laws or ordinances or at the request of the Authorities, the control of a public institution or business place, a Committee shall be appointed by a vote of this Chamber.

Art. 91.—If detailed rules are required for such control, the same shall be made by this Chamber separately in respect to each institution or business place under its control.

SUPPLEMENTARY PROVISION.

Art. 92.—No addition or modification shall be introduced into these Regulations, unless the consent of not less than two-thirds of the Members has been obtained.

Law Relating to Chambers of Commerce.

(Law No. 81, promulgated on Sept. 11, 1890).

Art. 1.—In this Law, the term “traders” means traders and undertakers engaged in commercial transactions belonging to the various categories mentioned in Art. 4 of the Commercial Code.

Art. 2.—When a Chamber of Commerce is to be established, those amongst the local traders, who are qualified by this Law to become Members, shall act as promoters and shall apply, through the Local Authorities, for the permission of the Minister of Agriculture and Commerce. The number of promoters shall be at least one half of the number of Members to be determined by the regulations of the Chamber.

The Local Authorities shall, on receipt of such application, consult the County or City Council, whose views, together with their own, shall be submitted in forwarding the application to the Minister of Agriculture and Commerce.

Art. 3.—The limits of the district in which a Chamber of Commerce is established shall correspond to those of a City or Commune. Should, however, the local condition or trade require it, one Chamber of Commerce may be established within the limits of several Cities or Communes combined.

Art. 4.—The functions and powers of a Chamber of Commerce are as follows :

1. To resolve upon measures necessary to promote the development of trade or to prevent its decline.

2. To submit to the Authorities its opinions concerning the enactment, amendment or repeal of laws and regulations relating to trade, the modes of executing them, and other matters affecting the interests of trade.

3. To furnish the Authorities with reports on the condition of trade and its statistics.

4. To express opinions, at the request of the Authorities, on matter affecting trade.

5. To exercise control, in accordance with the laws and ordinances or at the request of the Authorities, in respect to public business institutions, brokers' associations, and all establishments relating to trade.

6. To examine the number and qualifications of brokers and the rates of brokerage.

7. To undertake arbitration, at the request of the parties interested, in disputes concerning commercial matters.

Art. 5.—Traders who pay income-tax in the district in which a Chamber of Commerce is established shall have the right to elect Members.

Art. 6.—Traders, who pay income-tax in the district in which a Chamber of Commerce is established and are male persons of the age not less than thirty years, and commercial companies are eligible as Members.

Each commercial company shall be represented only by one person who has the legal capacity to act for the company.

Art. 7.—In determining the property qualification of electors and eligible persons provided in Arts. 5 and 6, the Minister of Agriculture and Commerce may by Departmental Order specify the particular grades of income-tax or admit other national taxes in accordance with the condition of each locality.

Art. 8.—Persons belonging to the following categories are disqualified to elect or to be elected Members :

1. Idiots and lunatics.

2. Persons sentenced to imprisonment for a term not less than one year or convicted of any offence against trade, agriculture or industry, or against property, or against public morality or credit, provided full three years have not elapsed since the completion of their sentences or the grant of pardon.

3. Persons who have been deprived of public rights or suspended in the exercise of the same.

Art. 9.—The number of Members, which shall be not less than fifteen nor more than fifty for each Chamber of Commerce, shall be determined by the regulations of the Chamber.

Art. 10.—Member shall receive no salary. The term of membership is four years. One half of the members shall retire in every second year, those retiring in the first period being determined by lot.

Art. 11.—No elected person other than those mentioned below shall, unless the consent of the Chamber is obtained, decline election or resign membership during the term for which he has been elected :

1. Persons showing that they are incompetent on account of illness or old age.

2. Persons showing that their business does not enable them to reside habitually in the locality in which the Chamber of Commerce is established.

Art. 12.—Any Members, who resigns without complying with the provisions of the preceding Article, may be ordered by a vote of the Chamber to pay a penalty not exceeding 200 *yen*.

Art. 13.—In the election of Members, the Chief of a County or City shall fix the date and place of election and nominate a Committee to conduct the election. The Chamber shall pay the expenses of election.

Art. 14.—No Chamber of Commerce shall hold open sitting in discussing matters mentioned in the 2nd, 4th, and 7th clauses of Art. 4.

Open sittings may also be prohibited by an order of the Minister of Agriculture and Commerce or by a vote of the Chamber.

Art. 15.—In the cases provided in the 7th clause of Art. 4, Chambers of Commerce may require the parties concerned to pay a reasonable fee.

Art. 16.—Each Chamber of Commerce is entitled to own property in its capacity as a legal person.

Art. 17.—A Chamber of Commerce may be its vote nominate Special Members not exceeding one-fifth of the fixed number of its Members and allow them to take part in its deliberations. No Special Member shall, however, be entitled to the right to vote.

Special Members are required to be experts in science and arts or those having experience in commercial matters.

Art. 18.—An estimate of the expenses of a Chamber of Commerce shall be submitted, through the Local Authorities, to the Minister of Agriculture and Commerce for his approval.

The final account of the estimated expenses shall reported to the Minister of Agriculture and Commerce through the Local Authorities.

Art. 19.—The expenses of a Chamber of Commerce shall be collected from the persons having the right to elect Members. The mode of collection shall be resolved upon by the Chamber and submitted, through the Local Authorities, to the Minister of Agriculture and Commerce for his approval.

Should any person fail to pay the expenses on the date of payment, the collectors of local taxes shall be requested to secure payment.

Persons who do not pay the expenses on the demand made by the collectors shall be suspended in the exercise of the right to elect and to be elected Members for a period not less than four years nor more than eight years and shall be further liable to a penalty not exceeding 200 *yen*.

Art. 20.—The Regulations of a Chamber of Commerce in which the following matters shall be regulated, shall be submitted, through the Local Authorities, to the Minister of Agriculture and Commerce for his approval :

1. Rules for the Election of Members.
2. Rules relating to Proceedings.
3. Rules for the Transaction of Business.
4. Duties and Powers of Officers.
5. Rules relating to Arbitration.
6. Rules relating to Account.
7. Rules for the control of Public Establishments or Business Institutions.

Art. 21.—The Minister of Agriculture and Commerce may, whenever the action of a Chamber of Commerce is deemed to be in excess of its powers or injurious to trade, suspend its deliberations and may further, according to the circumstances, order a new election of a part or the whole of its Officers or Members.

Art. 22.—The Minister of Agriculture and Commerce shall be held responsible for the execution of this Law and shall issue regulations necessary for this purpose.

Regulations for the Execution of the Law Relating to Chambers of Commerce.

(Order No. 12 of the Department of Agriculture and
Commerce, issued on Sept. 18, 1890.)

Art. 1.—An application for permission to establish a Chamber of Commerce shall contain the following particulars, which shall, together with the accompanying rules for the election of Members and estimate of the expenses for its organization, shall receive official approval :

1. Name of the Chamber.
2. Extent of its district.
3. Estimated number of the traders entitled to the right to elect and to be elected.
4. Number of the Members.

Art. 2.—When the permission has been obtained, the promoters shall give a public notice of the fact and prepare within sixty days a list of electors and eligible persons as provided in Arts. 5 and 6 of the Law relating to Chambers of Commerce. They shall then request the Chief of the County or City to hold the election, transmitting therewith the list together with the documents officially approved.

If the district of the Chamber extends to several Cities or Communes, the request shall be made to the Chief of the County or City in which the Chamber is to be located.

Art. 3.—When the Chamber or its promoters request the election of Members, the Chief of the County or City shall appoint within fifteen days a Committee of five members to hold the election on the date to be notified at least fifteen days previously.

Art. 4.—The number of Members and the rules for their election, approved on application provided in Art. 1, and also the list of electors and eligible persons prepared in accordance with Art. 2 shall continue in force until the approval of the Regulations of the Chamber is obtained.

Art. 5.—In preparing a list of electors and eligible persons, the Chamber or its promoters shall obtain the attestation of the Local Authorities as to the age and the amount of tax paid by each person to be entered in the list.

Art. 6.—The Regulations of the Chamber shall be determined within sixty days from the date of the election of Members and shall receive official approval.

Art. 7.—If the requirements of Arts. 2 and 6 can not be completed within the period specified therein, application may be made for its extension setting forth the reasons for such necessity (this provision added by Order No. 3 of the Department of Agriculture and Commerce, issued on March 11, 1891).

